# ∴ News of Virginia ∴

### TEN YEARS FOR SLAYER.

**George Lindsay Sentenced For Murder Of Coleman.**

Danville (Special).—George Lindsay, the slayer of Joseph Cabell Coleman, a member of the Cabell family of Virginia and grandnephew of Gen. W. L. Cabell, commander of the Trans-Mississippi Division of Confederate Veterans, and of the late Col. George C. Cabell, who for years represented this district in Congress, was convicted in the Corporation Court here of murder in the second degree. He was sentenced to ten years in the penitentiary.

The killing occurred on the afternoon of June 3 at the house of Nettie Wrenn, a white woman in the tenderloin district. According to the evidence of eye-witnesses Lindsay went to the house, and upon being refused admittance, shouted to the woman several times in the face. Knocking her down, Coleman, who was in the neighborhood, ran up, saying:

"Don't hit that woman again."

Lindsay then turned upon him and said: "I will kill both of you," at the same time drawing a pistol and shooting Coleman dead.

The prisoner testified in his own behalf, and said that a letter to the tragedy he had not known or ever seen Coleman. He confessed to knocking the woman down, and said that when Coleman came up he made a gesture as if to draw a pistol. The victim of the killing had only one arm, his left arm having been cut off in a wreck several years ago. Lindsay, however, declared that Coleman placed his "left" hand to his pocket.

At examination showed that the dead man had no weapon. After the shooting Lindsay fled and spent the night in the woods around the city. He was captured by a posse on the following day. The prisoner was represented by Attorney Doe, Halsey, of Lynchburg. State Senator George T. Rison, of Chatham, was associated with him in the defense, and Attorney Thomas Hamlin in the prosecution.

The jury was out about twenty minutes, and the fact that Lindsay had never known Coleman prior to the killing influenced them to bring in a rather light sentence.

### LYNCHING WAS THREATENED.

**Alleged Assailant Of Italian Woman At Portsmouth In Custody.**

Norfolk (Special).—Matthew Robinson, charged with criminally assaulting Mrs. Cimino on the Pegram farm, near the Portsmouth almshouse, on August 29, has been captured and lodged in the Portsmouth jail. He was arrested near Deep Creek by two Norfolk County men.

Mrs. Cimino is a member of the Italian colony living in the vicinity of Portsmouth. She is reported to known that her assailant had been captured the colony became greatly excited and there were open threats of lynching. Louis Mangiapane, head of the Italian Citizens' Association, however, succeeded in the counseled moderation. The colony will employ a lawyer to assist the Commonwealth's attorney in the prosecution of Robinson.

The prisoner strongly denies his guilt. He was exceedingly nervous when arrested, and became more so when confronted by his alleged victim.

### BRIDE HELD AS PRISONER.

**Her Mother Demands That Husband Must Embrace Jewish Faith.**

Norfolk (Special).—Because she married against her mother's wishes, Mrs. Leslie Newton, a Jewess, it is alleged, is held a prisoner at the home of her mother, Mrs. Sallie Gholstin, at Newton, a suburb of the city. Newton, a clerk in a store here, and Miss Gholstin were married at Greenville, N. C., by Rev. John E. Ayscue, of the Bute Street Church. They spent one day at the groom's home before going on then came to Norfolk.

The bride's mother took charge of the bride on her arrival and has not her ever since. She is permitted to go on the street occasionally, but never unaccompanied by some member of the family. Mrs. Gholstin says that Newton must embrace the Jewish faith before she will see her daughter. He is considering the matter. The groom is twenty-five and the bride is twenty-one years old.

### Spanlards Will Protest.

Richmond (Special).—Claude Traf Beri, imperial Italian consular agent, stated that he had made a personal investigation of the charges made at the Arvonia slate quarries, where a strike is in progress and where it had been reported to him that eleven Italians had been held up and forced back into the quarry, and at the point of guns. He ascertained that the eleven Italians were Spaniards, and therefore he had nothing further to do with the case.

The Spaniards, he states, are preparing to present their grievances to the Spanish Legation at Washington.

### Attacked By Wife Husbwayzen.

Norfolk (Special).—M. A. Carroll and James Kraft, young white men, were assaulted at the corner of Chestnut and county streets, in Portsmouth. Unknown negroes were, the assailants. Carroll was struck on the head with a blackjack, and for several minutes it was thought that he was dead. The police have two other colored men caused the bishwaymen to take flight.

Brass knuckles were used on Kraft and his face is a large bruise.

### Caused Pastor's Arrest.

Petersburg (Special).—Rev. Eli Tart, pastor of the Harrison Street Baptist Church, was arrested on a charge of having threatened J. H. Mason with a pistol and also with having assaulted him. The trouble occurred at the law office of T. C. Johnson, on Oak Street.

Mason is librarian of the Sunday School of the Harrison Street Church, which is now closed by order of the court on account of trouble, which occurred there several weeks ago.

### COAL LANDS PURCHASED.

**Immense Tracts To Be Feeders For New South And Western Road.**

Bristol (Special).—George L. Carter and associates, who are engaged in the construction of the South and Western Railway, consisting when finished through Southwest Virginia, East Tennessee, Western North Carolina, and South Carolina to the South Atlantic seaboard, have lately purchased a vast amount of land along the rights of way in East Tennessee, Western North Carolina, Southwest Virginia, and Eastern Kentucky.

At and near Kingsport, Tenn., some twenty miles from this city, Mr. Carter personally purchased and paid for, in the name of the Unaka Land Development Company, property which cost over $1,000,000. A number of very heavy purchases in Unicoi County, Tenn., were made last week by Carter's agents, and several important transfers have just been recorded in his favor in Dickenson County, Va., and Eastern Kentucky.

The Carter syndicate, which is being backed by Thomas F. Ryan, of New York, is the consolidation of the South and Western, at a cost of over $3,000,000, already owned 300,000 acres of the richest coal lands in Southwest Virginia and Eastern Kentucky, for the development of which the road is being built, and this is being rapidly supplemented.

John W. Winder, for several years head of the Sunday Creek coal corporation, of Cleveland, Ohio, the largest bituminous producer in the country, and mining and shipping annually 11,000,000 tons of the black diamond, has been enlisted by Carter interests to head the Clinchfield corporation, in whose title to the 200,000-acre tract is vested, and Mr. Winder is now at Dante, Va., personally superintending the construction work, preparatory to the opening of many mines on a large scale.

### Trolley Cars In Crash.

Norfolk (Special).—In a head-on collision of two well-filled cars on the Seaside line of the Norfolk and Portsmouth Traction Company, running out of Brambleton Ward to Ocean View, four passengers were slightly injured and many shaken up.

The two trolley cars were smashed. The motormen saved themselves by jumping.

### VIRGINIA OBITUARY.

Fredericksburg.—R. H. Mifleton, a well-known citizen of King George County, died at his home near Grigsby of typhoid fever, aged 48 years. He had been a member of Grand Jury Examines 75 About Income Tax Evasion.

Danville, Va. (Special).—The grand jury of the Corporation Court is now engaged in an investigation of the alleged violations of the income-Tax law, and some sensational developments, affecting some of the most prominent citizens, are expected to follow soon.

It has come to the attention of the grand jury that the revenue books show an income of less than $1,000 from citizens whose appearances indicate that they make thousands of dollars annually. The names of several hundred of the leading and wealthiest citizens have been given the grand jury. Seventy-five or more were examined.

### Heckler Vindicated.

Richmond (Special).—Heckler, the deposed treasurer of Henrico County, was re-elected at the hands of the people in a heart-breaking finish over Frazier, his opponent and the incumbent Sheriff Solomon and Commonwealth's Attorney Wendenburg were also defeated. Both of these united with the Frazier element. Wendenburg prosecuted Heckler at the time of his deposition.

Heckler's victory means his vindication of the stigma put upon him by the court in ordering his removal from office. The official returns have not yet been received, but Heckler's majority will be very small.

### Mackintosh Hanged.

Norfolk (Special).—William Mackintosh, a negro, was hanged here for the murder of C. W. Parks in April. He protested that he did not kill Parks, accusing Tom Lassiter, convicted with him, but who subsequently became insane and is now in an asylum.

Mackintosh has a grandmother living in Indianapolis and a brother in the Texas United States Calvary in the Philippines, and was himself a member of Troop L, Tenth Calvary, which fought at the battle of San Juan Hill.

The motive of the murder was robbery.

### Denial From Tucker.

Norfolk (Special).—President Harry St. George Tucker, of the Jamestown Exposition, when his attention was called to a dispatch from Staunton announcing his candidacy for the next Democratic nomination for governor of Virginia, said:

"I am too busy working for the success of the Jamestown Exposition to be thinking of anything else. My work here takes my whole time and attention, and to this work, and this alone, all the energies of my life be devoted until its close. I am not authorized any such announcement."

### Found Dead In River.

Petersburg (Special).—The body of James Walker, a married man residing on Shore Street, who was drowned in the Appomattox River, on Saturday morning, was found. Walker left here Monday on an excursion train for Norfolk, and how he came to his death is not known.

### Massachusetts To Unveil Monument.

Winchester (Special).—Announcement was made here that Gov. Curtis Guild, Jr., and a distinguished party of Massachusetts veterans of the civil war will visit Winchester September 16, when a monument to the Massachusetts dead buried in the National Cemetery here is to be dedicated.

### Foreign.

The British consul general at Antwerp has formally protested against the discrimination given British ships during the strike.

The big Cunarder, Lusitania, out for the ocean record, completes her trials after leaving Queenstown.

Lord Leopold has transferred the domain of the crown in the Congo Independent state to the work completed.

The American officers who witness the Germany army maneuvers were dined by Emperor William.

Mr. Bryce, minister of commerce and special events at the Jamestown Exposition, will visit Canada.

Smallpox is raging in Vienna; 166,000 persons have been vaccinated and public meetings forbidden.

The American Chamber of Deputies approved the contract of Robert McCune, of New York, for the construction of the railroads from Arracho and Ucayali River Railroads.

The Spanish minister of justice at Mitorol ports of Morocco with their consuls, and established public organizations of native Moors, in order to establish order.

A large force of reserves is digging in the snow in an effort to save 36 Austrian soldiers who perished the avalanche in Chili.

The Prussian health officers announced that a rafisman from Russia, who developed cases of cholera, had died of cholera.

Emperor Nicholas has given Premier Stolypin permission to resign the Japanese Order of the Sun of Japan.

Dr. Maurice F. Egan, new American minister to Denmark, presented his credentials to King Frederick.

An account of the success of Professor Zeppelin's airship before the Central Africa for the sleeping sickness was received in Berlin.

An unfounded rumor that an attempt had been made on the life of Prince Ferdinand of Bulgaria caused a stir in Vienna.

King Edward decorated M. Iswolsky, the Russian Foreign Minister, with the Grand Cross of the Vatican Order.

The German finance ministry announced that the surplus in the revenue for the imperial government.

A doctor declared Mrs. Amy Root, of Rochester, N. Y., who created a scene in Paris, to be insane.

Germany is watching events in Morocco, and will prevent the Egyptianization of that country.

A Russian emigrant died suddenly on a train near Thorn, Germany, possibly from cholera.

The anti-Jewish disorders, after being in progress for several days, were finally stopped.

## The News

### Domestic.

Mrs. Auree Batonyi, who was formerly Mrs. Burke-Roche, will quit her husband and will return to the home of her father, Frank Worth, in New York, in order that her children by her first marriage may inherit their grandfather's wealth.

The investigation of the affairs of the Interborough - Metropolitan railway merger of New York promises some highly interesting developments. The company formerly paid 7 per cent. annual dividends. Now it pays 9.

Senator Depew, who has returned from Europe, says that the slump in the American stock market has prevented the consummation of many important deals in America in which foreign capital was interested.

Mrs. T. Nutting, of New York, wife of a retired army officer, was killed, and her daughter, Mrs. Phillip Moore, and the latter's child were badly injured in a runaway accident at Bridgeport, Conn.

It is estimated that of the $10,000,000 annual damage to property in New York from fires $2,000,000 damage results from careless handling of matches and cigarettes.

Three bandits pulled a daring holdup on the Rocky Mountain Limited, of the Rock Island Railroad, going through Texas, and robbed the passenger coaches, taking all the passengers' valuables at the point of revolvers.

Dr. Edward Giasgo, a prominent young physician, of Brazil, Ind., is dead, and his wife is thought slightly wounded in the breast, as the result of a mysterious shooting affair which occurred following a masquerade ball in that city.

The federal grand jury at Jamestown, N. Y., has returned additional indictments against the Pennsylvania and New York Central Railroads and the Standard Oil Company.

District Attorney Jerome has asked for a special grand jury of investigation to consider the destruction of books and papers in the offices of the Equitable Life Assurance Society.

Burton Flammer, aged 19 years, confesses that he set fire to the Normandie Hotel, at Columbus, O., because he was jealous of the attentions of a clerk to a waitress.

William Summer Lagwerthy, son of a wealthy Massachusetts manufacturer, has married a coon girl, the daughter of a farm laborer, employed in his father's plant.

The Chicago office of the Postal Telegraph Company has axed the Telegraphers' Union for their refusal to payment for messages filed by strikebreakers.

The date for the beginning of the trials of United States President Borah at Boise, Idaho, has been fixed for September 23. He is accused of conspiring to defraud the government by procuring illegal entry of timber lands.

At Scott Haven and Suterville, on the Pittsburg Division of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, an attempt was made to wreck the Special Express by drawing spikes from the tracks. A fast freight was also derailed.

The cruiser Frigia, with Prince William on board, sailed at dawn from Bombay for Aden. Prince Boniface and Lieutenant Commander Klercker arrived just after midnight from Buffalo and Niagara Falls.

In New York the directors of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad declared the regular quarterly dividend of 2 per cent., a special stock and an extra dividend of 2 per cent.

The State Board of Railroad Commissioners of Kansas issued an order for the reconstruction of all the two-cent-a-mile passenger fare in that state.

At Little Rock the Farmer's National Congress and the Mississippi Union fixed the minimum price for middling cotton at 10 cents a pound.

Charles H. Deeve, millionaire plow manufacturer, is in a private hospital in Chicago. His malady is said to be fatal.

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### WAGES ARE UP MORE THAN FOOD

**Results of Investigation By Bureau of Labor.**

**THE PURCHASING POWER OF LABOR.**

**Comparison Between the Years 1905 and 1906—The Figures Point to Wageworkers in Industrial and Mechanical Enterprises and Not to Clerks.**

Washington, D. C. (Special).—The annual investigation of the Bureau of Labor into wages and the retail prices of food, the report on which has just been placed in the hands of the printer, shows that in the principal manufacturing and mechanical industries of the country average wages per hour in 1906 were 4.5 per cent. higher than in 1905, the regular hours of labor per week were 0.5 per cent. lower, and the number of employes in the establishments investigated was 7 per cent. greater. The average full-time weekly earnings per employe in 1906 were 3.9 per cent. greater than in 1905.

During 1906 wages were increased generally in nearly all industries, but of the 41 industries covered by the investigation, showing some increase. The greatest increase was in the manufacturing of cotton goods, where the average wages per hour in 1906 were 11.2 per cent. higher than in 1905. In the manufacture of electrical apparatus and supplies the increase was 10.8 per cent., in the building trades work done by contract the increase was 9.5 per cent., in iron and steel, Bessemer converting, 8.5 per cent., and in the manufacture of cigars, 8.4 per cent.

In the manufacture of bar iron the decrease in 1906 was 1.6 per cent., and in the building trades work done by day labor in the 13 industries showed an increase in hourly wages of 3.6 per cent. In 2 other industries an increase of 5 per cent. but less than 10 per cent., and 31 industries an increase of less than 5 per cent.

The fact should be borne in mind that these figures apply only to wageearners in manufacturing and mechanical industries and do not show conditions so far as salaried employes are concerned.

The retail prices of food, weighted according to consumption in representative workingmen's families, were 2.9 per cent. higher in 1906 than in 1905. As the advance in wages per hour from 1905 to 1906 was greater than the advance in the retail prices of food, the purchasing power of an hour's wages, as measured by food, was greater in 1906 than in the preceding year.

In 1906 the purchasing power of an hour's wages, as measured by food was 1.4 per cent. greater than in 1905; 3.9 per cent. greater than in 1903 and 1906 the Figures Point to Wageworkers in Industrial and Mechanical Enterprises and Not to Clerks.

### UNCLE SAM WILL NOT BE CAUGHT NAPPING

**Government Preparing For a Clash With Japan.**

**ALL READY FOR THE BIG FIGHT**

**Extensive Arrangements on the Pacific Coast for the Care and Equipment of the Warships That Are to Be Sent There—A Strategic Move of Vast Significance.**

Washington, D. C. (Special).—Admiral Cowles, chief of the Bureau of Equipment of the Navy Department, and Admiral Capps, chief of the Construction Bureau of the same department, have just returned from the Pacific coast, where they have been making arrangements for the care and equipment of the battleship fleet when it arrives on the Pacific coast after its cruise around the world.

Admiral Cowles, in charge of the equipment bureau of the department, which is looking after the coaling and supplying of the great fleet on its cruise, paid especial attention while on the Pacific coast to the matter of the coaling facilities of the coast in the empty bunkers of the big ships when they arrive at the end of their journey.

Admiral Capps paid especial attention to the condition of the various naval stations and drydocks, especially those at San Diego, Mare Island, San Francisco, Cal., and Bremerton, Wash., in the state. It is found that at all these stations the officers in charge were making rapid progress in carrying out the instructions already received from Washington, and everything will be in good ready for the systematic docking of the battleships making the trip, as will be necessary when the battleship fleet arrives on the coast. In fact, both the naval officers and the navy yard people stated that everything is ready for the fleet when it arrives, whether the ships sail in short or a long stay on the Pacific coast. The only trouble anticipated is the fact that there will be a shortage in the supply of labor on the Pacific coast, in consequence of the demand for labor in the Philippines.

While the Navy Department has been preparing for the arrival of the fleet in the Pacific coast the department has not been neglectful, and while the officials all scout the idea of any trouble with Japan or other foreign nations, the officials have made preparations for an inspection of the fortifications and defenses of the ports in the Philippines.

An order was issued to Lieutenant Colonel Frederick V. Abbot, Corps of Engineers, and Capt. Samuel Reber, Coast Artillery Corps, to proceed at the earliest practicable moment to the Philippines. Lieutenant Colonel Frederick V. Abbot, Corps of Engineers, and Capt. Samuel Reber, Coast Artillery Corps, to proceed at the earliest practicable moment to the Philippines. They will make a thorough inspection of the fortifications at Manila and Subig Bay, and will return to the United States in time to report to the chief of staff of the army before the assembling of congress. Both officers will be accompanied by a number of assistants. Lieutenant Colonel Abbot will arrive in Manila when Secretary of War Taft is in the Philippines, the latter's visit being in connection with the starting of the construction of the Philippine railroad. Secretary Taft will no doubt be done under his personal supervision.

### CARTER WOMAN ACQUITTED

**Bank Teller's Friend May Also Get $7,500 Reward.**

New York (Special).—Mrs. Laura M. Carter, who has been on trial for a week on a charge of receiving stolen money, was acquitted by the jury. She was accused of having received from Chester B. Runyan, the defaulting teller of the Windsor Trust Company, $5,000 of the $82,000 he stole from the bank.

One of the Jurors said after the verdict had been returned that the jurors agreed that the testimony of Runyan, who was the principal witness against Mrs. Carter, be entirely ignored on the ground that Runyan was a self-confessed thief.

Runyan testified that he first met Mrs. Carter in the street and that he arranged with her to conceal him. This was before his sensational departure from the bank with $82,000 in bills concealed in his suit case. He testified that he told her he was short in his accounts.

After taking all his money in his suit case, he testified, he went to live at a flat with Mrs. Carter in Harlem. He said he gave her $5,000 at once and that a day of two later she drew $1,000 more. He said that after that she did not get it she would betray him. This, he said, he also told her.

Mrs. Carter admitted getting $5,000, but said that as soon as she knew it had been stolen she returned it to Runyan, who gave it back to the police. She denied absolutely that she was the woman he met on the night before he disappeared, and that she had received $10,000, as Runyan testified.

Immediately after the verdict Mrs. Carter was released from custody. She said she had only received $2,500 and would demand the reward offered for the capture, which amounted to $7,400.

### COURTED WOMEN TO ROB THEM

**Dead Burglar Proves to Be Second Johann Hoch.**

New York (Special).—A second Johann Hoch, the police believe, has been discovered in Henry Hoffmann, who died in the Tombs prison after some time before he was killed, were the police say, he met Mrs. Minnie Rosenthal. Mrs. Rosenthal is formerly lived with Mrs. Schum, as Mrs. Schum's property. The young woman overheard the plot, and immediately informed the police.

She also made a sketch of them as they appeared when together, and were shown her, she unhesitatingly identified the pictures as those of Hoffmann and Schum.

Hoffmann, a dealer of gold, set with a small red stone, which was found in Hoffmann's room, was also identified by Mrs. Minnie Street, who was a friend of Mrs. Schum. The jewelry was found in the room of Mrs. Schum after the murdered woman's sister-in-law. Mrs. Schum had given Mrs. Street a bunch of keys one found in Hoffman's room which she said was the key to the door. She said that she had often used it. The key fitted the door. The police believe Hoffman killed later by the police.

Samuel Schum, a tailor, whose shop is one the ground floor of the building in which Hoffmann lived, was arrested after the killing of Sophy Heckler, identified Hoffmann's body as that of a man who went to the shop on August 21, the day after Mrs. Schum is said to have left for Europe as she wanted cleaned. The coat, Weinberg says, was not taken up, although Hoffman explained these stains by saying that he had had a fall during the night before and had scratched his face. Weinberg also showed no signs of it, according to Weinberg.

Hoffmann's method, like that of Hoch, the police say, was the same. The acquaintance of women of his own matrimony and by appealing to their desire to marry them, secure the possession of property, and if necessary killing them.

The witness later stated that during the long time she had lived with Mrs. Schum the latter had no men friends. Later on there was a rich woman was killed after returning from a Mediterranean trip. It was the fact that Hoffmann was a Bavarian that first led the police to suspect that he might have been the murderer of Mrs. Schum.

### IN THE FINANCIAL WORLD.

Louisville & Nashville's gross earnings in July increased $423,516 and net profits gained $50,509.

The dividend on Interboro-Metropolitan preferred was passed, as everyone expected it would be since it was not earned.

Burlington Railroad directors declared the usual dividend of 2 a share in addition to the regular quarterly dividend of $2. This action gave a big boost to all the Granger railroad stocks and helped the whole market.

H. V. Jones is a member of Watson & Co., the firm of New York Stock Exchange brokers that for years been regarded as one of the greatest "bear" operators. One of his big business being to travel through the grain states of the West. It was during one of these trips of his firm's failure was the fact that they were heavily short of wheat.

George Kendrick, who represents Edmund Jones, of Philadelphia, says that there is a good deal better inquiry for investments than existed a few weeks ago.

Hill and Morgan control the Burlington as they also control the Erie and the Northern Securities. There's Burlington's dividend after cutting the melon. It would be impossible to deduce from those action whether Hill and Morgan are still bears or if they have turned bulls on the market.

Here is what a big Wall Street house wired to its Philadelphia representatives: "We have had some good buying lately, very good indeed and fairly extensive. People here are getting over their scare and seem to think we have seen the bottom and I agree with them."

### THE HOUSE OF TOO MUCH TROUBLE,

In the House of Too Much Trouble
There lived a lonely little boy;
He was eager for a playmate,
He was hungry for a toy.
But 'twas always too much bother,
Too much dirt and too much trouble
For the House of Too Much Trouble.
That's meant for little boys.

And sometimes the little fellow
Left a book upon the floor,
Or forgot and laughed too loudly,
Or he failed to close the door.
For the House of Too Much Trouble
Things must be precise and trim
In the House of Too Much Trouble
There was little room for him.

His must never scatter playthings
He must never speak and play.
Every room must be in order
And kept quiet all the day.
He had never had companions,
He had never owned a pet
In the House of Too Much Trouble
It is trim and quiet yet.

Every room is set in order—
Every book is in its place.
And the lonely little fellow
Wears a smile upon his face.
In the House of Too Much Trouble
He is silent and at rest—
With a toy in his breast.
—Albert Bigelow Paine, in the Juvenile

## MRS. KERRISON'S HEART.

### —(A Short Story.)—

When I heard that Tom Frisby was going to be married as a great shock to me. I asked Jack Gosney, my informant, "Is he married much?" and tactfully he said Gosney.

"Who is the creature?" I inquired, after a pause.

And when he replied, "The eldest Miss Carruthers," I was more shocked than ever. Of course we who understood Tom Frisby knew that he was only marrying for money, but I thought that Miss Kerrison—

"Well, it is something to be a harbor of refuge," she remarked. "Thank you, Tom." Then, by the way, is it really true, this time, that I am to congratulate you?"

"You are not fortune in finding you here, do you mean? Why, certainly," I said.

"I did not mean that," she said. "I meant that—that—well, the usual rumor is out concerning you and—"

"Indeed!" I exclaimed, "But which of the usual rumors do you mean?"

"There is only one—isn't there—that is commonly linked with the name of an eligible young bachelor. But is it true?"

"Believe me," I assured her, "it is not true."

"I am so glad," she breathed softly. "Poor girl! At least—that is——"

She wouldn't have covered up her indiscretion, but perceiving that it was now too late, she paused abruptly and looked interested.

"Who is the poor girl?" I asked. "I had not intended to proceed on exactly these lines, but I found it difficult to be sufficiently brutal now that the necessity confronted me."

"Oh," she drawled, with a woeful affectation of indifference, "I think, as the song says, 'You are owre young to marry yet,' you know."

"I wonder what your wife will be like," she went on presently. "I do hope she will be a nice, helpful sort of girl, and not a mere society butterfly—like me."

"Why!" she asked. A most awkward question.

"Why!" I repeated slowly, to gain time. "Because those people in there bore me. And you—you never do that, Miss Kerrison."

"Well, it is something to be a harbor of refuge," she remarked. "Thank you, Tom.